GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STEEL
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:11
ANSWERED ON:20.02.2001
IMPORT OF CHEAP STEEL
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the import of cheap steel from Russia and Ukraine has led to a decline in the prices of steel in the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken to stop the import of cheap steel from various countries;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to help the steel industry;

(d) the details of profit and loss from the exports of steel during the last three years; and

(e) the details of measures taken/being taken by the SAIL to augment exports?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR STEEL (SHRI BRAJA KISHORE TRIPATHY)

(a)to(e): A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (E) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.11 FOR 20/2/20(SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR AND SHRI G.S. BASAVARAJ REGARDING IMPORT OF CHEAP STEEL

(a) Yes, Sir. Imports of steel at low prices and dumping from some countries including Russia and Ukraine have a depressing effect on the prices of steel in the country.

(b) The Government on the recommendation of the Designated Authority, imposed anti dumping duties on the imports of HR Coils, HR strips/sheets/plates and boiler quality plates from Russia and Ukraine. The Government also notified floor prices for certain items of steel to restrict their cheap imports into the country.

(c) The Government have taken several steps to help the steel industry which inter alia include the following:

- Enhanced allocation for infrastructure development.
- Launching of a National Campaign for increasing demand for steel.
- Setting up of an Institute for Steel Development & Growth (INSDAG).
- Rationalisation of excise and customs duty and reduction in duty on raw materials used in steel making.
- Exclusion of freight and handling charges for computation of Excise Duty on steel despatched from stockyards of integrated steel plants.

(d) The current data collection and accounting practices do not generate the profit/ loss separately from exports.

(e) SAIL has taken the following measures for augmenting exports:

- Contesting trade cases for re-opening SAIL`s major traditional markets for plates and HR Coils.
- Maintaining market presence in established markets and exploring new/ non-traditional markets.
- Exporting value added products like HR Coils / slitt, high tensile quality plates etc.